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## **Libertarians announce campaign to abolish racial classifications from Census forms**

*On 2000 form, tell politicians your race is none of their business*

WASHINGTON, DC — The Libertarian Party has launched a national campaign to abolish the government's system of racial classifications, and is urging Americans to refuse to disclose their race on census forms in the year 2000.

"For 20 long years, the U.S. government has demeaned every American by pigeonholing us according to the color of our skin," said the party's national chairman, Steve Dasbach. "In three years, when the census takers ask about our race, we hope Americans will stand up and say: No more. Tell these fill-in-the-blank bureaucrats that your race is none of the government's business."

The party launched the campaign this week when the federal government, after a three-year study, decided not to abolish its five "official" racial classifications. Instead, government bureaucrats said multiracial Americans should check several boxes, such as black and white, on the 2000 census form.

The goals of the Libertarian Party's "Say No to Racial Classifications" campaign are to build public awareness of how politicians exploit racial classifications to further divide the nation along racial grounds, and to eliminate them from all government forms, said Dasbach.

To spread the word, the party is enlisting the support of a network of activists and registered voters across the country and is mounting a nationwide media blitz.

America could move more quickly toward a colorblind society, Dasbach said, if politicians followed the lead of nations with more progressive racial policies — such as South Africa.

"A decade ago, the U.S. government imposed trade sanctions to pressure South Africa to repeal its system of racial classification called Apartheid," he said. "Wouldn't it be ironic if South Africa, which has repudiated government-sponsored racial discrimination, now imposed sanctions against the United States for the same reason?"

Fortunately, if the Libertarian Party's campaign is successful, American politicians won't have to rely on a foreign government to teach them racial tolerance, Dasbach said.

"Every single American can strike a blow for a colorblind society by saying 'no' to the census takers and 'no' to racial classifications," Dasbach said. "We're all Americans — what else does the government need to know?"

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